

February 9, 2009

To: James City Comprehensive Planning Commission

From: [REDACTED]

In reference to a recent article in the Daily Press about your land use plan, you just do not seem to get it. According to the article the James City Planning Commission can only see land as profitable if it has some kind of building/s on it. Those in the business world who basically are in control of how the land is used have tunnel vision when referring to land use and improvement in James City County. Buildings require maintenance whether they are occupied or not. Vacant land while not paying taxes in money requires very little maintenance if any. Just because a structure takes up space on a piece of ground does not guarantee it will be profitable.

Once you have changed James City County's beautiful landscape and pleasant living into an unpleasant polluted, noise and traffic ridden place, not to leave out water problems, you will undoubtedly move on to another serene pleasant county to "improve." I realize some growth is inevitable but it should be done in a tactfully and well thought out manner, which is not being done at present. Maybe it is your lack of knowledge or research on the subject that you do not realize the real value that retaining some wooded and vacant areas can provide for a community. I sincerely hope that you are not driven by greed and the prospects that big money will be the solution to all things in the County.

If you have visited Northern Virginia lately you can get the picture. Doesn't it matter to you and all your constituents, that your policies are slowly eliminating James City County as a great place to live with a good quality of life? Many people I have spoken to have moved here to escape Northern Virginia for a better quality of life with pleasant viewing.

If you are really serious about charting a reasonable growth course, why not research what other communities are doing to accomplish growth while retaining their beauty and tranquility. With a little innovation there is every reason to believe this type of commitment could be made in JCC. I am imploring you for the sake of those who come after us, to make JCC a place where there is something to suit every kind of land and homeowner large or small and protect the quality of life which makes the county so appealing and special.